

MSR Stakeholder Working Group

Orange/Villa Park/Orange Sphere of Influence

February 13, 2004

Meeting Notes

The meeting began shortly after 10:00 am.

Agenda/Desired Outcomes:

The facilitator reviewed the meeting agenda and desired outcomes. The intent of the meeting was to cover the following three items:

- Gain an understanding of the respective focus area agencies and communities
- Identify existing challenges and issues
- Identify trending data needed to analyze the challenges and issues

Working Group Alternates:

The group was asked to revisit its previous decision about whether or not to have alternates included on the working group.

Subsequent to discussion, Working Group members agreed to the following relative to the role of alternates participating on the Working group:

- Each WG member may have **one alternate** that will take his/her place during a Working Group meeting in the event he/she is unable to be present
- For continuity, it is preferred that alternates attend, as public observers, all WG meetings
- **Only the person sitting at the WG table will participate** in the WG discussion and consensus decisions.
- Each WG member will submit the name and title of their alternate to LAFCO staff by February 20, 2004
- LAFCO staff will compile and distribute the list of alternates to Working group members for their consideration by February 23, 2004

The list of alternates will be reviewed by the WG at its March 12 meeting at which time it will decide whether or not it will accept the alternates listed.

Working Group Member Presentations:

Each Working Group member was asked to briefly describe their agency/community, type of services provided, governance structure and what is most important to the organization/community for the future. A summary of the presentations follows:

City of Orange

Overview:

- Population - 135,000
- Covers 27 sq. miles
- \$140.7M budget FY 03-04

Services:

- Full service City (police, fire, parks & rec, libraries, water, community development & land use planning, public works, etc.)

Governance:

- Incorporated in 1888
- City Manager/Council form of government
- 5-member Council

Irvine Ranch WD

Overview:

- 270,000 residential service population
- 500,000 daytime service population
- 133 sq. mile service area (including all or portions of the cities of Irvine, Lake Forest, Tustin, Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, Orange, and County unincorporated areas)
- \$60M annual operating budget

Services:

- Five-service utility (potable water, non-potable water, wastewater, reclaimed water, urban runoff)

Governance:

- Formed in 1961 – A California Water District
- 5-member publicly elected Board of Directors

Santiago Co. WD

Overview:

- 29,000-acre service area (includes unincorporated County canyon communities e.g., Modjeska, Silverado, Williams, Blackstar, Baker, Hall, Ladd & Fremont and a East Orange Lake Village)
- Other than Silverado/Modjeska Parks & Rec. District, the only form of local government service provider to the canyon areas

Services:

- Ensure safe, dependable water supply
- Ensure future availability of water
- Advance general interest of communities served

Governance:

- Formed in 1962 under County Water District Law
- Five-member elected Board of Directors

Silverado/Modjeska Parks & Rec

Overview:

- 50,000-acre service area/80 sq. miles
- Other than Santiago County Water District, the only form of local government service provider to the canyon areas
- \$35,000 /yr. budget (revenue from property taxes)

Services:

- District operates 2 community centers- 1 in each Silverado & Modjeska canyons, 2 parks & 1 children's center
- Trail advocates
- Promote use of entire canyons area

Governance:

- Formed in 1961 by vote of the canyon area residents
- Five-member elected Board of Directors

City of Villa Park

Overview:

- Population - 6,500
- Covers 2.1 sq. miles
- \$2.5 M budget (\$1M is from property tax revenue)
- Five full time staff, 5 contract staff & 1 hourly administrative staff person

Services:

- Provided either directly by the City or by contract (Orange County Sheriff & Orange County Fire Authority for Police & Fire services)

Governance:

- City incorporated in 1962
- General law form of government: Five-member City Council - City Manager
- Council receives no stipends

Serrano WD

Overview:

- 3,000-acre service area (includes the city of Villa Park)
- 90% of the service area is developed
- Irvine Lake is the main supply source for water
- Revenue sources: direct water rates and recreation fees for Irvine Lake

Services:

- Retail water provision

Governance:

- Formed in
- Five-member Board of Directors

County of Orange

Overview:

- Population - 2.9M+ (150,000 population in unincorporated areas)
- Covers 798 sq. miles
- \$4.2B FY 03-04 budget

Services:

- Regional service provision (public health, airports, jails/DA, etc.)
- General government services
- Municipal-level services provided to 150,000 people in unincorporated areas

- County facing potential \$62M shortfall in General Fund due in part to VLF rollback (General Fund is budget source for service provision to unincorporated areas)

Governance:

- Formed in 1889
- Five-member Board of Supervisors elected to four-year terms
- Board Chair & Vice-Chair are selected by the members of the Board - positions rotate annually
- Combination of appointed and elected department heads

East Orange County WD

Overview:

- 15.6 sq. mile service area
- Service area population is 100,000
- Nearly \$5M FY 03-04 budget
- Five full-time staff members

Services:

- Operates both wholesale & retail water distribution systems
- Wholesale area includes: Tustin, Orange, OPA, North Tustin, Cowan Heights, & Lemon Heights areas
- Retail service area – 1/3rd is located outside the east Orange study area (includes unincorporated area of Panorama Heights)

Governance:

- Formed in 1961 as a County water district
- Governed by five-member Board of Directors – serve four-year terms

Orange Park Acres/OPA Mutual

Overview:

- Orange Park Acres includes approximately 400 acres of land
- 2,000 homes in OPA – 650 currently in the City of Orange
- First homes established in OPA in 1928

Services:

- Water service to OPA residences is provided by both OPA Mutual Water Company and the City of Orange
- OPA Water Board serves 1750 people
- Majority of homes currently on septic system some homes have converted to sewer & have individually annexed to the City of Orange
- \$25 association fee collected from all households annually- revenue used to fund trails maintenance & for association insurance

Governance:

- OPA community has a nine-member Board of Directors elected to three-year terms officers do not have to be Board members
- Community has no CC&Rs – rely on County or City laws or guidelines where applicable

North Tustin Public Member

Overview:

- North Tustin includes approximately 7.2 sq. miles of unincorporated territory
- Population – 28,600 residents
- Originally agricultural land - orchards

Governance:

- North Tustin has no elected body
- Governed by the County of Orange
- North Tustin Advisory Committee serves as an advisory land use review body to the Orange County Board of Supervisors

Inter-Canyon League Public Member

Overview:

- Most rural of any canyon areas
- Exists to protect and preserve unique canyon way of life
- Preserving community archives and history
- Participates in County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program
- Support other canyon-area service providers including volunteer fire fighters, Silverado Modjeska Parks & Rec District & Santiago Co. Water District
- Focus on issues – fire safety council, canyon watch, maintain website, canyon history committee

Collective issues of importance expressed by the group:

In addition to providing an overview of agency/community services and governance, working group members identified what was most important to agencies for the future relative to the scope of the MSR process. The following is a collective summary of the areas of importance identified by the group:

Services:

- Cost effective, timely, dependable service provision
- Maintaining high level of service reliability
- Access to efficient services - eliminate overlapping service provision – septic users access to sewer
- Maintaining the current agency services
- Single-focus service providers
- One water provider for the City of Orange
- Cellular service upgrade
- Improvement of utilities/undergrounding utilities
- A programmatic approach to infrastructure upgrades, refurbishment, or replacement
- Maintaining volunteer fire services
- Awareness of fiscal constraints, stresses on revenue sources

Quality of Life:

- Protecting community values, quality of life, local assets, historical landmarks & features
- Maintaining rural lifestyle
- Achieving minimal impacts to the environment
- Safety issues – increased traffic issues
- Parks & recreation, acquisition & preservation of open space
- Fluid transportation

Issues/Concerns:

Working Group members discussed how they would like to go about identifying the issues that will be considered during their visioning process for the Orange, Villa Park, Orange SOI MSR focus area and agreed to the following:

- ➡ Each WG member will submit to LAFCO staff by February 20, 2004:
 - a list of **up to eight issues** to be considered
 - a list of **types of data** needed to effectively discuss each of the issues listed
 - a list of the **data sources** they want used for drawing the types of data requested
- ➡ Each WG member will copy all other WG members with the lists submitted to LAFCO
- ➡ LAFCO staff will review and cross reference the various issues submitted. Subsequently LAFCO will compile and categorize the issues in a format that will facilitate the WG's discussions and visioning for the focus area
- ➡ Suggested issue categories are:
 - Water and waste water
 - Land use
 - Rural preservation
 - Resources
 - Transportation and traffic
 - Other
 - Utilities
 - Government services (schools, libraries, post-offices)
 - *(Note: each category of issues will have a sub-component that identifies its finance-related considerations)*
- ➡ LAFCO staff, subsequent to categorizing the issues and requested data, will email the categorized list of issues and data to the WG members prior to the March 12 meeting

The WG at its March 12 meeting will review, modify as necessary, and finalize the list of issues and data required for their consideration.

Follow-up Items:

The Keith Companies (TKC) will prepare a letter for distribution to working group members declaring any current work contracts with stakeholder working group agencies.

Adjournment

The meeting concluded and was adjourned before 1:00 pm.